bute to E.S.I. but do not get the benefit of this scheme as they do not have required working day as stipulated in the statute in view of this trade being seasonal and they do not get work in monsoon; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to waive the provision of mandatory service days so as they may derive the medical benefits for which they are made to pay?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SING GHATOWAR): (a) and (b) The Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948 is not appilcable to seasonal factories/establishments. The employees of the factories/establishments which are covered under the Act, have to satisfy certain contributory condition for being eligible for sickness and maternity benefit. There is no contributory condition for grant of disablement benefit, dependant benefit, funeral benefit and medical benefit during the period of employment. There is no proposal for making any changes in these provisions.

New Railway Projects in Greater Bombay

826. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken up any new railway projects in Greater Bombay area to cope up with the needs of increasing passengers and freight in that area; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and when these are expected to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is attached. (*See* below).

Statement

New railway projects in Greater Bombay

Major works include:

(i) Additional paid of lines between Bandra and Andheri. Its completion will depend on the availability of funds.

(ii) Construction of a new line from Mankhurd to Belapur with a bridge across Thane Creek:

Cost of this project is being shared between CIDCO/State Government of Maharashtra and the Railways in the ratio of 67:33. Encroachments on the proposed line are coming in the way of execution of this project and its completion would, therefore, depend on the removal of such encroachments.

(iii) New Passenger terminal at Kurla:

This terminal would be commissioned within six months of the clearance of the stay by the Court.

(iv) Bandra Terminal:

This terminal would be commissioned within six months of the clearance of the stay by the Court.

(v) Remodelling of suburban yard at Bombay VT to provide double discharge facility:

The work is expected to be completed in the current year.

(vi) Re-spacing of signals on the slow corridor between Bombay and Kalyan:

The completion schedule has not yet been fixed.

Pending Irrigation Projects in Maharashtra

827. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether some irrigation projects in Maharashtra are pending with the Central Government;